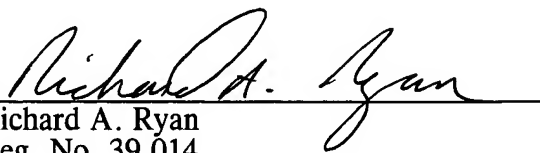


1 In the Office Action, the Examiner identified two distinct inventions. Invention I is  
2 identified as claims 1-43 drawn to a thermostatically controlled valve, classified in Class 236, subclass  
3 12.11+ and Invention II is identified as claims 44-56 drawn to a hot and cold water system including  
4 a thermostatically controlled valve controlling the connection from the hot and cold water connection,  
5 classified in Class 137, subclass 334+. Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121, the Examiner has required  
6 Applicant to restrict the examination to a single invention for prosecution on the merits. In response  
7 to the Examiner's requirement, Applicant has selected Invention I, identified with claims 1-43 for  
8 prosecution on the merits, without traverse to said selection.

9 Consideration of the application in light of Applicant's restriction is requested.  
10 Allowance of Claims 1-43 is respectfully solicited.

11  
12 Dated: December 18, 2003.

13 Respectfully Submitted,

14  
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